## PRESS RELEASE

## Date: March 18, 2010

## Musi River Bank Cleanup at Amberpet Bridge

Rivers of the World Foundation (ROW) with the cooperation of the local community leaders, residents and Sree Nidhi Institute of Science and Technology (SNIST) initiates a debris/ trash cleanup of a small segment on the banks of Musi River near Amberpet Bridge on March 20, 2010. About fifty (50) SNIST National Social Service (NSS) volunteers are participating in a beneficial activity. Musi River is the life blood of Hyderabad and other downstream communities. It is heavily polluted and the banks of the river are loaded with debris and trash. SNIST volunteers will be contributing a piece to a mammoth project of restoring Musi River to its natural & pristine condition before man's intervention. Through this announcement, every interested person is invited to see this event.

ROW is formed with various nationals with a view to do our bit for the restoration of the rivers and banks. ROW members, with very limited resources, have performed such cleanups and/or workshops in Agra, A.P., Delhi, Haryana & Meghalaya in India, Philippines and Mexico during the past five years.

SNIST and its NSS students show their commitment to environment in addition to academic developmental programs.

The upcoming event initiated by ROW on April 10, 2010, shows the commitment of the other nationals in improving the water quality of the rivers. The five time Grammy award Winner Mr. Victor Wooten the guitarist and Mr.Wubbenhorst on flute are coming together for a benefit concert for clean water in India (see picture).

Local MLA Hon. Mr. Mohammad Balal, keen on the development of Musi River and adjacent areas, is very much interested in this cleanup and will be present on the day around 11a.m. Mr. K. Ravindar Reddy, a long time resident of the area, is making arrangements for proper disposal of the collected trash, and other needs.

The A.P. Government, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), and other interested public and private agencies are working hard to restore the Musi River. While the projects take time to complete, this cleanup is a very small attempt by the local residents, and sponsors.

Alice Ferguson Foundation, USA, has kindly donated some garbage removal bags and gloves as a token of their appreciation for ROW besides providing their methodology and related valuable information.

The volunteers assemble about 10 a.m. on that day at SNIST and move to the site by 10:45 a.m. During transportation and for 15 minutes on the site, safety and cleanup training will be provided. Cleanup will be between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ROW, volunteer and other interested citizen interaction will be for an hour. At the end of event, NSS and other participating volunteers will be awarded Certificates of Participation. The event concludes at 3:00 p.m.

The training includes key concepts and definitions such as decompose, biodegrade, reduce, reuse

and recycle. Some materials biodegrade more slowly than others – glass and plastic bottles 400-500 years, aluminum cans 200 – 300 years, whereas banana peels biodegrade in two months only. It is important to separate and dispose of properly. Biodegradation is important for reusing the soil.

If and when such cleanups are performed on a regular basis as standard maintenance procedures for the polluted rivers/banks, accrued benefits over a period include health & safety of citizens, additional tourism and recreation, and thereby general development.

## " I will pick up a piece of litter every day."

For Further information please contact

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Find site location as given below:

